

THE CIRCUIT RIDER

A Publication of Centenary United Methodist Church

June 2009



Last year I had a great idea. I hope I have great ideas a little more often than once every six months, but...last year I had a great idea!

When it comes to buying presents for my wife, I like to listen. Cheryl and I will go places and she will make comments about things she sees and when she does, I get ideas of what to buy for her.

So last year, while we were out for an evening walk, I heard her admire some roses that were growing in a garden in our neighborhood. These were not just any roses, they were a special variety, they are called "weeping" along the line of a weeping willow tree. These are tree roses, and they are a very special color, called "Fairy," a shade of pink.

Now armed with this vital information, I went on-line and ordered two of these weeping Fairy tree roses, to be delivered in time for our anniversary in February. I received confirmation of my order and assurance that the tree roses would be here in plenty of time for me to once again surprise Cheryl with the perfect gift (how had I known?).

I began the long process of waiting. This past week, after six months of waiting, I contacted the Better Business Bureau. They have informed me that this particular company is notorious for this sort of action, taking orders, taking payment and failing to ship the items ordered. I have been instructed by the BBB to contact the Ventura County District Attorney's office.

Now I have dealt with a company that fails to keep their promises. I am now a sadder but wiser individual for the experience.

Do you know who always keeps His promises? God. He always keeps His promises. God called Abraham to leave the land of Ur and go to a land that He would give to Abraham's descendants. Abraham didn't even have children yet, but God promised to give a land to his descendants.

We know that promised land as Israel. God kept His promise.

God promised Abraham not only land, but also children. The problem was, Abraham was an old man and was married to an old woman. The Bible says that they were both well past the age of child-bearing. But God promised. We know that child today to be a son, Isaac. Interesting thing about Isaac, he was born when his father was 100 and his mother was 90. Maybe that is why his name Isaac, means laughter.

God is nothing like the company I dealt with when I ordered the roses for Cheryl. I may be able to force them to either send me the roses I ordered or return my money, but I will have to force them to act. God on the other hand does not have to be forced to act. God keeps His promises because that is one of the ways He shows us that He really does love us.

Shalom,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Bob". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Pastor Bob

Samaritan's Fund is a fund Centenary established to help church members through difficult times.

An anonymous donor has offered to match funds for contributions made to Samaritan's Fund, up to \$150. If you would like to make a contribution to Samaritan's Fund, make your check payable to Centenary, with Samaritan's Fund in the memo section.

Thank you.





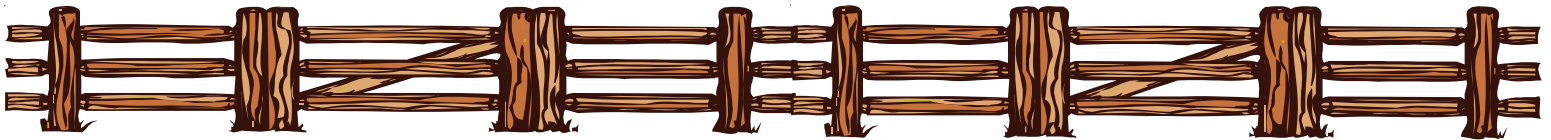
Vacation Bible School Crocodile Dock

Where Fearless Kids
Shine God's Light!



Sunday June 28 -
Thursday July 2, 2009

Sunday 4:00 p.m. Python Ron and his Reptiles!
5:00 p.m. Bayou Barbeque!



Youth Rummage Sale

Do you have a closet, garage, or room to clean out? The youth are currently accepting donations for our upcoming Rummage Sale to raise money for the youth fund. Not sure if we would want it?

Let us decide!

Items can be brought to the Youth Room (Rm 4/5) on Sunday morning, June 6 or Wednesday Evenings June 3 & June 10.



Too big for you to transport or unable to get to the church?
Contact Jeff Wolfswinkel at 578-9782 to arrange items to be picked up.

Come check out the Youth Rummage Sale on Friday, June 12 & Saturday, June 13, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Centenary Church.

Would you like to get acquainted with the fellowship of Spirit Salon,
without committing to an entire session?

In the summer Spirit Salon women meet in
different homes on Wednesday mornings,
from 9:30 -11:00, for fellowship,
light refreshments, a short
devotion and prayer time.

Beginning in June, watch the weekly
bulletin for the locations of these Spirit
Salon "Share and Care" meetings.
If you would like more information, call
Dale Fruechtenicht at 869-4391.

Hope to see you this summer!



Births in the Church Family

Gabriella Rose Ogden born on
May 20, 2009 to Parents Philip
& Elizabeth Fisher-Ogden and
Grandparents Wade
& Jenner Swanson



Weddings

Missy Broughton &
Jeff Sachau were married
on May 16, 2009

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

Wednesday Nite Live will
be taking a break during June.

Look for details of the Summer
Session, July 8- August 12, in
the July Circuit Rider and at
worship services.



Home with the Lord

Lauraine Muriel Kreamer
passed away on May 23, 2009

Special Concerns



Please keep these members of our
Church family in your prayers:

Wendy Robertson
Gail Bucheli
Mimi Fisher
Anita Weiss

Deanna Hutton
Kay Mooreland
Helen Helton

Weekly Events

SUNDAY

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY RM. 1 - 7:00 A.M.
 CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE - 9:00 A.M.
 ADULT SUNDAY CLASS RM. 15/16 - 9:00 A.M.
 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE - 10:30 A.M.
 CAMBODIAN WORSHIP SERVICE - 10:30 A.M.
 YOUNG ADULTS GROUP RM. 20 - 6:30 P.M.

TUESDAY

THRIFT SHOP - 9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY- PERKO'S RESTAURANT 6:00 A.M.
 JR. & SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP - 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.

THURSDAY

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY RM. 15/16 - 9:00 A.M.

SATURDAY

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE - 6:30 P.M.



Events & Meetings In June

June 02 Children's Ministry Team Meeting
 June 07 Communion/Food Bank Sunday
 June 08 Board of Trustees Meeting
 June 11 SPRC Meeting
 June 12/13 Youth Rummage Sale
 June 15 Finance Committee Meeting
 June 18 Preschool Advisory Board Meeting
 June 21 Celebration of Pastor Bob's 10th Year
 June 21 Special Worship Times: 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
 June 22 Ad Council Meeting
 June 28 Congregational Blood Pressure Screening
 June 28 Vacation Bible School Kick-Off



6/1	BEN BANKARD	6/10	BETTY CAMPBELL
6/1	KEVIN BEHRENS	6/10	PAUL BUCK
6/1	ELISABETH HELLMAN	6/10	CHRIS BIDWELL
6/1	WESLEY McCLAIN	6/11	DALE FRUECHTENICHT
6/1	THOEUN YANG	6/11	KAREN WEATHERLY
6/2	SARA MARQUART	6/12	JONATHAN THUN
6/3	AMY FORBES	6/13	BRENT URBAN
6/3	DON BAUGHN	6/13	ALLISON McCLAIN
6/3	KATHY BOYD	6/13	MONICA BAUGHN
6/4	ALICE ANDERSEN	6/13	TYLER BYRNE
6/4	REDDING CAUSEY	6/14	JIM BOWERS
6/4	SEANGHUN SOUN	6/14	MARGARET BELL
6/5	CYNTHIA VINCENT	6/14	MURINE HAVENS
6/5	BEVERLY WINGER	6/15	JIM NAWROCKI
6/5	BORAMY TEK	6/15	PATRICIA HARRIS
6/5	GWEN RENO	6/18	DEANNA HUTTON
6/5	STEVEN DiTOMMASO	6/18	EARL GAARDE
6/6	MARY BURROUGHS	6/18	MERLE BECKWITH
6/6	SAO SAN	6/18	JOHN LIGHTHALL
6/6	KRISTIN SIMONSON	6/19	SHANNA COOLEY
6/7	DIANA PINHEIRO	6/20	MICHELLE OVERHOLTZER
6/7	CARYN KYTE	6/21	ERIC FLETCHER
6/8	BOPHA LEY	6/21	ROBERT HALL
6/9	RICH FERREIRA	6/21	PAT HARRINGTON
6/9	DAN SPARKS	6/22	JULENE GENTRY
6/9	FRED RENO	6/23	MARC BLEDSOE
6/9	CLAYTON McCLANAHAN	6/23	NANCY WHITE
6/10	BOB MORRIS	6/24	PAT SHAEFER
6/10	JILL TORRANCE	6/24	JUNE SCOTT
		6/24	MEL RICHARS
		6/28	RICH FISHER
		6/28	RATHY LEY
		6/29	WHITNEY DAVIES
		6/29	PAUL RAWSON
		6/29	BRENDA REDNER
		6/30	TRACEY RIDDLE
		6/30	JAMES BROCK
		6/30	JAMES BLACK

It is not our intention to overlook your birthday. If your birthday was not listed, please call the church office @ 527-5441 and let us know, so that we can update our records. Thank You!



There will be an All-Men's chorus on Sunday, June 21st. Don't let the ladies out do us! We want at least 40 men to participate. We'll rehearse that morning and sing during second service at 11:00 a.m.

Watch for further details in the bulletin and during announcements.

New in the Library

I stood in front of a full-length mirror and groaned, “I hate being this old! Look at me! I’m old and fat and gray.” “Cheer up,” my husband said. “You still have excellent eyesight!” Maybe if I go to the church Library I will feel better, you come too! Let’s look over all of those good books waiting for us.

Her’s one! It is in the Children’s section and I like it because it’s a pop-up book about the story of Creation. It’s printed by Creation Publishing Company. Popular author Terri Balkstock has written “Miracles,” a double book. In “The Listener” Sam discovers that he knows exactly what other people are thinking and what they really need. How will he use this gift? The other story, “The Gifted,” is about three friends who are rescued from the rubble of an earthquake and discover they have newly acquired powers. This forces them to work together. The question is when these powers end, will they still maintain the things they have learned? On the Library’s Evangelism and Missions shelves is “The Dawning” by John Gilman. The author journeyed into villages and hamlets in India. He truly believes that India’s only hope is in Christ. You will find this book is a testimonial of God’s amazing saving Grace.

In the Fiction section is “A Time to Dance” by Karen Kingsbury. This is about John and Abby, “the perfect couple,” who have drifted so far apart they contemplate divorce. Then their daughter announces her wedding plans and they must postpone their decision. Is their marriage truly beyond repair?

A “different” book is “Getting Your House in Order” by Lindsay Roberts and Leigh Anderson. This is a quick reference guide to help organize important documents with helpful hints and encouraging Scripture verses. This book is on the Social Issues shelves.

~Margaet Bell



The olive trees around the Sanctuary are beautiful and full of meaning to our church. They were planted when the church was built and have flourished. However they require yearly pruning and spraying to keep them healthy and fruitless so they do not pose a danger to the congregation.

The cost to do this is almost \$3,300 per year. With the current economy, we need to ask ourselves if maintaining these trees is a wise and prudent use of our Lord’s money as compared to maintaining vital church services such as the youth ministry and outreach among others. We are called to be good stewards of our resources and feel that services that maintain and grow our congregation are of primary importance.

However, we do recognize that many love these trees, so if anyone would like to sponsor one or more trees at about \$850 per year per tree, we will be happy to accept a donation directed for this purpose. You may even designate which tree you wish to sponsor!

Respectfully,
The Board of Trustees



S.W.E.A.T. AEROBICS

Laughter IS the Best Medicine

“Happy hormones” like immunoglobulin and cytokines, experts say, fight bacteria and viruses in addition to destroying tumors. Just a quarter hour of belly laughing is enough aerobic activity to stimulate and increase these hormones. Laughter stimulates blood circulation and oxygenation to promote clear thinking. It increases “natural killer” white blood cells, according to researchers Lee Berk and Arthur Stone. Their studies suggest healing is accelerated in people who laugh. Other research shows that even the act of smiling when you don’t feel like it can reduce stress and improve your mood. Smiling promotes a sense of well-being. I often tell my class that smiling can make you look at least 5 pounds thinner—the reason is that it gets people to notice your FACE rather than your figure. Even if it’s not completely factual, it does get them to LAUGH!

Climb every mountain! Ford every stream! Follow every rainbow!
(That ought to reduce middle age spread)

**S.W.E.A.T. Aerobics meets
in the Fellowship Center:
Mon., Wed., & Fri.
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
and Mon. - Thurs.
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
(High or Low Impact)
Tues. & Thurs. 8:00 - 8:45 a.m.
(Non-Impact/Seniors)
For More Information Call:
Sandra Hegwood @ 578-1616**



DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Children's Ministry is buzzing with plans for Vacation Bible School! VBS is an ongoing event throughout the week of June 28 through July 2. We

welcome over 100 children each evening and have over 2 hours of fun activities planned. This year's theme is 'Crocodile Dock' where fearless kids shine God's light. Kids will learn to see God at work in their lives by watching for God sightings throughout the week and beyond.

Vacation Bible School is much more than sitting in a chair and hearing a Bible story. Kids actually experience Bible stories every night through engaging, hands-on activities. One example of this is a night when kids will not only learn about Moses and the plagues God sent to Egypt – they will actually *be* the plagues. They will become hungry locusts and annoying flies and loud frogs and they will help change Pharaoh's mind about letting the Israelites go. The children will always remember that God is our Lord because they will experience His power. Besides the exciting Bible exploration time, they will also experience energetic games, worshipful music, simple crafts and yummy snacks that are all based on the Bible story of the day.

One of the most important nights at VBS is later in the week when kids have learned how powerful God is and how much He cares for us. The children are presented with the Gospel and they are given an opportunity to pray to ask Jesus into their lives forever. I can't begin to tell you how amazing that moment is to see dozens of children with heads bowed in prayer, and hands raised to God, asking Him to be with them always. In that moment, all the months, weeks and hours of VBS preparation are worth every second because those children have new hope in Jesus.

There is still plenty of time for you to be part of this exciting ministry. We need about 70 volunteers to help make VBS a reality. We need many supplies and, well, a lot of financial help to offer a week of God's love to any child who wants to come. About 60% of the children at VBS are not a part of the life of Centenary and this may be the first time they hear about Jesus. Please help us make Jesus known to the children of Modesto! We appreciate your support and your prayers!

In His Service,

Heather Daniel
hethdaniel@yahoo.com

Youth Switch Party

Wednesday, June 17, 2009
at the Wades' home



Jump in & Join us!

Upcoming 7th graders are invited to join the jr. high and high school students for an afternoon of food, fun, and swimming!

Bring a snack to share.
Call Steve for directions @ 505-4483.



It is June and the weather is beginning to heat up! I guess it is time to brace ourselves for another hot summer. We are so thankful for the air c o n d i t i o n e d

Fellowship Center that we can retreat to when it's just too hot to be outside! We just keep praising God for His many blessings.

We had a fun-filled, marvelous month of May! The children enjoyed honoring their mommies for Mother's Day. They planted flowers, made cards and handprint plaques for them. On May 8th, the children made necklaces using colored noodles, wooden beads and fruit loops. Most of the noodles and beads made it to mom or grandma, while some of the edible fruit loops were just too yummy to escape being eaten. The children also had the opportunity to draw a picture and tell a story about why they love their mommies so much. The stories and pictures were just too precious and I'm sure they'll be treasured for many years to come.

On Thursday, May 12th, the children walked to the "Cinderella Park" (the one with the pumpkin carriage!) on Tokay Ave. The weather was just perfect for a walk with a nice cool breeze. The walk was great exercise plus it was a good opportunity to practice our safety rules for crossing the street, walking on the sidewalk, and staying safely by a trusted adult while at the park. The children were so excited about the park day. One mom told me her son woke up at 5:00 a.m. and was ready to go to the park! Sometimes it is just fun to play on a different playground for a change.

The last two weeks of May the children learned about farm animals. They learned there are many different animals that live on a farm, including cows, horses, donkeys, goats, pigs, chickens, ducks and many others. The children learned that some animals help farmers do their work, while others provide food. It was great learning about the sounds the animals make, what they eat, and what they do on the farm.

On Thursday, May 21st, Karin Mettler brought in walking sticks, a salamander, a toad, a tarantula, a snake, tortoises, turtles, and a skink. Most of the children had never seen a skink. We learned that a skink is a reptile that has a blue tongue and lives in the rain forest. It was interesting learning where each animal lives, what they eat and how they adapt to live in their environment. Thank you very much, Karin for bringing this fascinating, hands on learning experience to us.

In chapel, the children began learning how God made our wonderful world as they studied creation days one through 3 from the book of Genesis. In June we will continue with creation days four through seven. Our themes for June are "Father's Day" and "God's Roaring Ocean."

With the end of May comes the realization that we must say good-bye to some of our preschool children who will be taking that big step into kindergarten. It is with mixed emotions that we "let go." By now we've grown quite attached to these precious children. We feel so blessed and honored to have been able to spend the preschool years with them. We send them off with proud hearts, knowing they are ready, and prayers that God will continue to protect and bless them.

Thank you for your continued love, support and prayers for our preschool ministry.

Janet Lewis
Preschool Director



Women's Fellowship

Women's Fun & Fellowship Group

New group beginning for the women and of Centenary Church. Connect with other women for fun and fellowship.

Come and see what it's all about!

Sunday, June 14

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

(immediately following the second worship service)

Meet in room 15/16

We will share snacks and share ideas for future activities.

Please join us because GirlFriends Matter!



Centenary United Methodist Church

1911 Toyon Avenue
Modesto, CA 95350
(209) 527-5441

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Let's Celebrate!!!

*June 21st
Extended Fellowship Time
10 am to 11 am on the Patio*

*We will be celebrating Pastor Bob's
10th appointment as Senior Pastor
to Centenary during an
extended fellowship time between services.*

To add to the festivities, there will be *"guy food,"
motorcycles, music, photos and more!*

Baskets will be available for your cards and letters of appreciation for Pastor Bob's call to ministry and his service to God at Centenary.

Don't miss this special time of recognition and thanks.

